

REMARKS

Claim 27 is pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-26 were previously cancelled. With this Amendment, claim 27 is amended and remains at issue.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 102 Anticipation Rejection of Claims

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Wilder et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,262,871). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 27 is directed to a solid-state image sensor. The solid-state image sensor comprises unit pixels each having: a photoelectric conversion element for converting incident light into electric signal charge, an amplifying element for amplifying the signal charge stored in the photoelectric conversion element into an electric signal, and a reset element for resetting the signal charge, said reset element being a depletion transistor. Claim 27 has been amended to recite that the reset gate of the depletion transistor is a transverse overflow barrier. This characteristic is described in the originally-filed application at page 20, lines 8-11 and page 28, line 21 through page 29, line 1. Accordingly, this amendment is supported by the specification.

Wilder is directed towards an image sensor comprised of an array of photo elements including a device for randomly addressing individual pixels and a device for selectively varying the number of pixels that can be read out on any one reading cycle. *Wilder* is devoid of any disclosure or suggestion that the reset gate of a depletion transistor is a transverse overflow barrier, as recited in amended claim 27, which allows the claimed invention to achieve complete resetting without any unremoved charge. Therefore, *Wilder* does not anticipate claim 27. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all claims are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully request early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 5, 2007

By: /David R. Metzger/
David R. Metzger
Registration No. 32,919
SONNENSCHNEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
P.O. Box 061080
Wacker Drive Station, Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1080
(312) 876-8000